

ARCHAEOLOGY SURVEY LOG

Site 185T54Project SLAVE CABIN IIIDate 7/29 -Page No. 1

7/29

7/30

STATION	BM el+READING	=H.I.-READING	=EL.	BEARING	DISTANCE	DESCRIPTION
N8000 E8045	ARBITRARY 50 FEET	5.25	4.43	50.82'		N8000: E8000 ELEVATION @ ARB.
N8000 E8045	50'	5.25	5.44	49.81	T.U. 1	N7990 E8031.5 SW CORNER
			5.30			N7995 E8031.5 NW CORNER
			5.20			N7995 E8034 NE CORNER
			5.305			N7990 E8034 SE CORNER
			5.73	49.52	TU 2	N7985 E8031.5 SW CORNER
			5.44	49.81		N7990 E8031.5 NW CORNER
			5.305	49.94		N7990 E8034 NE CORNER
			5.715	49.53		N7985 E8034 SE CORNER
N8000 E8000	50.82	5.34	5.86	50.30	TU 3	N7990 E8012.5 SW CORNER
			5.77	50.39		N7995 E8012.5 NW CORNER
			5.82	50.34		N7995 E8015 NE CORNER
			5.91	50.25		N7990 E8015 SE CORNER
			6.24	49.92	TU 4	N7985 E8012.5 SW CORNER
			5.86	50.30		N7990 E8012.5 NW CORNER
			5.91	50.25		N7990 E8015 NE CORNER
			6.38	49.78		N7985 E8015 SE CORNER
N8000 E8045	50'	5.25	8.53	46.72	TU 5	N7970 E8029 SW CORNER
			7.74	47.51		N7972.5 E8029 NW CORNER
			7.53	47.72		N7972.5 E8034 NE CORNER
			8.21	47.04		N7970 E8034 SE CORNER

ARCHAEOLOGY SURVEY LOG

Project SLAVE CABIN III

Date 7/29/

Page No. 2

STATION	BM el+READING	=H.I.-READING	=EL.	BEARING	DISTANCE	DESCRIPTION
N8000 E 8045	50'	5.25	9.01	46.24	TU 6	N7970 E 8024 SW Corner
N8000 E 8000	50.82	5.34	47.15			N7972.5 E 8024 NW Corner
			7.74	48.42 ←		N7972.5 E 8029 NE Corner
			8.53	47.63		N7970 E 8029 SE Corner
					TU 7	N7970 E 8019 SW Corner
						N7972.5 E 8019 NW "
						N7972.5 E 8024 NE "
						N7970 E 8024 SE "
			9.65	46.51	TU 8	N7970 E 8014 SW Corner
			8.68	47.48		N7972.5 E 8014 NW "
			8.62	47.54 ←		N7972.5 E 8019 NE "
			9.73	46.43		N7970 E 8019 SE "

Sotterley Slave Cabin II - 1997 Phase III Excavations

Field Notes - Modified by Stratum - 7/25/97 - 8/2/97

Set-up Notes

- Laid in 3 shiners/ test units on east die of cabin 2.5'x5.0' (2.5' east-west/ 5.0' north-south).
- Shiners not numbered yet, because part of unit inside house.
- Test units numbered by southwest corner.

Test Unit 1 N7990/E8031.5

- After removing the sod - noticed three possible layers.
 - One is from the test unit from the previous project done in 1995.
 - One is along the wall and is a possible foundation fill, from when the cabin's foundation was redone.
 - The other covers the rest of the unit.
 - Chris took elevations of the sod closure.
- Stratum 1 - The previous test unit from the project in 1995.
- Stratum 2-3 - very hard to define all possible fill layers.
- Stratum 4 is now defined partially as a kind of fill with low number of artifacts on the west, along the house.
- Determined that 2-3-4 are different layers and that layer 2 is the same as the underlying layer 5 (Stratum 4). -Kept the artifacts from 2 and 5 separate.
- Higher number of artifacts from stratum 2 than in stratum 4.
- Stratum 4 undercuts Stratum 2 & 3.
- Stratum 2 & 3 post date Stratum 4, thus cutting into Stratum 4.
- Stratum 4 contains Feature 1 that is on the east side of the unit and is a shell scatter.
- Feature 1 - One thin layer lense of shell, possibly used for drainage.
- Toothbrush found in stratum 4 along with porcelain prosser buttons.
- Run-off from the roof caused the trench that ran thru and possibly caused stratum 2 and exposed stratum 4.
- Construction of the foundation may interrupt stratums 2-4.
- Stratum 2 was compacted, possibly by the constant walking over, because layer 3 is directly under the door.
- Stratum 4 continues to dip in the southeast corner and is very gravelly.
- Stratum 8 is an undulating clay subsoil and is natural.

Test Unit 2 N7985/E8031.5

- Sod layer may have same trench as test unit 1 because of water coming off of the roof eaves.

- Deep sod layer against the house, erosion caused.
- Foundation was at sometime replaced/ repaired--Late 19th century or later.
- Stratum 2 is the trench along the west side of house and stratum 3 is the layer covering the rest of the unit.
- Stratum 2 appears to be like mortar or clay that has been dropped during foundation construction.
- There is a feature that cuts through stratum 3 and becomes totally stratum 6.
 - Stratum 6 is removed still revealing Feature 4 that cuts into stratum 4.
 - It looks like either a tree or huge root.
 - The feature/ layer goes fairly deep and the soil is extremely loose like test unit 3's feature 2.
- Stratum 2 is still the rain trench, just a change in color and texture.
- In stratum 4 is another feature - Feature 5 - it is a large clump or concentration of charcoal and some large shells in a cluster.
- Stratum 4 comprises most of test unit 2 with 2 features in it.
 - Feature 5 is a cluster of charcoal and shell.
 - Feature 15 is a dark stain and is large.
 - Feature 15 is most likely and hopefully a post hole from the large posts placed along side of the cabin to hold the battens together.
- In the transition of stratum 4 & 8 is a shell feature - Feature 9.
- Feature 15 is now looking like a huge post hole.
- We ran a trench, bisecting Feature 15 and around the southwest corner (stratum 4) to see what's going on.
- Feature 15 now appear to be the same thing.
 - They have a severe dip in the southeast corner; don't know if it is man-made or natural yet.
- Going to bisect what was Feature 15 along the east wall, leaving a balk between the two trenches to see if they are the same.
- In the southeast corner and the east center, came upon a thin layer of clay - stratum 5 - on top of Feature 15 and approximately 1/2" wide. Went right thru it - found white clay pipe stem fragment.
- Stratum 7 - is a gravelly clay silty layer located in the southwest corner. Just a little patch.
- It is very disheartening to discover our beautiful post holes of Feature 15 are actually a big rodent burrow.
- Surprising looking at the profile of test unit 2 along the west wall along the house - it looks like there actually is a post hole - it is and was screened and labeled as Stratum 7; and is now it is also Feature 16.
 - Feature 16 is exactly 4.5' from the edge of the house; the same distance as existing post on the east side of the house.

Test Unit 3 N7990/ E8012.5

- Stratum 1 is run-off from the dirt floor inside of the house and is located directly under the door.
- Stratum 4 is a silty loam dark brown and is run-off from the eroding hillside accumulated along

the west side of the house.

- In the sod layer was found a bottle neck from an apothecary bottle or perfume bottle.
- Startum 2 - looks like a large decaying tree trunk situated in center of the door, but at the southeast corner of test unit 3.
- Stratum 2 - soil is very gravelly and loose - can stick trowel in with no resistance.
- Stratum 2 high amount of wood retrieved in a circular pattern - found cut nail and foil and some green chalky stuff.
- Startum 1 contained multi-layered (very thin films) of layered dirt floors and topsoil (continuous washing and eroding episodes).
- Stratum 2 -expanded and new defined lines.
- Startum 2 boundaries redefined and still contains the tree.
- At the start of Stratum 7 starting to have shell pop up.
- Stratum 6 under eaves of the house - rained on/ water dropping creating trench - filled with shell at some point.
- Startum 8 clayish layer with high gravel.
- Tree feature intrudes through Startum 6 & 8.
- Tree now labeled as Feature 2 - changed to Feature 26, along with Feature 20.
- Shell in Startum 7 is named as Feature 3 and combined with Feature 27.
- After raining on 7/28/97, shell held some water.
- As digging out Stratum 4 down to the shell we pedestal Feature 26 cause it is so loose and we really don't know how deep it goes.
- Stratum 8 is heavily mottled and low number of artifacts and looks like a fill layer of some sort.
- Startum 7/ Feature 3 - shell pit continues and undercuts Stratum 2.
- Renamed all of the shell as Stratum 7 extending Feature 3 deeper.
- Feature 26 cuts through Stratum 7 and Feature 3.
- Shell of Feature 3 is highly dense and the surface of the shell layer dips in the southwest corner.
- Feature 26 ends at Startum 8 and disappears.
- Feature 26 - at the end of it - there are 2 hole features, one is larger and is beside the house, and the smaller one is a little ways away.
- The west portion of Feature 26 came down on Stratum 8 and subsequently onto the shell of Stratum 7 Feature 3.
- Bisect the two hole feature.
- Under Feature 26 in the eastern portion - looks like subsoil - subsoil appears to have 2 textures - gravelly near the house and clay deposits away.
- The gravel could be continuous rain fall and the clay pocket just occurring naturally.
- Bisect features 6 and 7 (little post holes).
- The Feature 26 now looks like it could have been a wooden step and the 2 hole features (6 & 7) look to some how be connected with the wooden stair.
- Stratum 9 is not subsoil, but rather a gravelly fill.
- Under the shell (Stratum 7/ Feature 3) is Startum 9 - the gravelly fill.
- The fill does continue and has brick.
- Feature 7 (the larger hole) is expanding to the west - little knob coming off of it.
- Looks like it could be a root.
- Boards of wood in wall don't look like solid boards, but rather like a trough or gutter system with different kind of fill/soil in the middle of the U-sections that is not found in the rest

of the profile.

- The shell is partially under the trough-like feature; but was placed nicely around the posts.
- Removed layers of gravelly fill with shovel down to clay subsoil.
- Could the shell be later than both and carefully removed to put in the posts and boards?
- Could the posts predate the shell and the boards came later?
- Could the post holes be roots?

Test Unit 4 N7985/E8012.5

- Underneath the sod layer is a layer of mulch and straw.
- Mulch and straw is Sod Stratum.
- Door dirt run-off - Stratum 1.
- Have a trench along side of foundation and is Feature 10 (Not a Feature).
- Lots of down slope erosion to the south.
- Two more features appeared in Stratum 1.
- Feature 11 (Not a Feature) is some kind of dark stain and Feature 12 (Not a Feature) is under the

post and could be the beginning to the post hole or mold.

-Feature 10 (Not a Feature) appears to be decayed mortar from some building episode.

-**Note: there is no rain trench in this test unit yet.

-Features 10 and 12 (Not Features) are combined to be Feature 13 (Not a Feature) and is the rain trench.

-Feature 13 is no longer a feature because it is just rain erosion and topsoil and Feature 11 is no longer a feature.

-Both were just topsoil coming through the surface.

-Stratum 3 covers the whole unit and is a dark brown organic unit- good soil for the day lily bulbs that are buried.

-Stratum 1 was door run-off.

-Feature 16 in Stratum 3 (Not a Feature) - possible concrete post-mold with post possibly intact.

-Feature 16 is no longer a feature - it turned out to be just a rubble clump.

-A rain trench has appeared in east wall - color different - gray - now called Feature 18.

-Came down on Stratum 4 - grayish layer - there is some mottling of orange coming through - could be more door run-off, considered mottling with Stratum 4.

-Mottling of orange gravelly stuff in Layer 4 surrounds the day lilies planted by Mrs. Engles 1950s - 1960s.

-Stratum 6 runs along the edge of Feature 18 and goes about half way out into the test unit.

-Stratum 8 is mottled clay and sandy gravel layer to the west half of the test unit.

-Stratum 4 has many nails, mortar, green stuff and day lily bulbs, and an ironstone sherd with generic ironstone mark.

-Stratum 6 contained nails and pottery.

-Post hole in southeast corner (Feature 19) {Not a Feature} darker brown under the post that is heavily decayed.

-Northeast corner dark stain - could be just about anything - called Feature 20 (Not a Feature).

-Center of the east side of wall - dark circular stain - Feature 21 (Not a Feature).

-Stratum 8 - very mottled - shell popping up, hopefully start of the shell midden (scatter).

-Fill of Stratum 8 is going deep - no sign of shell yet.

-Features 20 and 21 are not features, but rather dips of soil from Stratum 6.

-Feature 19 is no longer a feature, but rather is also a dip of Stratum 6.

-Post hole gravel in east wall profile from decaying existing post - Feature 24 (Stratums 10 & 11).

-The oyster shell in Stratum 8 is not uniform across unit - took mid-level floor plan.

-The wood is coming through the balk on the north profile and there is a wood straight vertical line on the east wall with a piece of metal butting against it.

-Wood shape in the north balk profile is different shape and more log shaped.

-Feature 25 - is the shell scatter that is uneven along Stratum 8.

-Shell goes across most of the test unit except for a patch in the northwest corner.

-In this patch is bright orange Stratum 10. It look like the fill in test unit 3.

-The shell (Feature 25/ Stratum 8) has high quantity of bone, nails, charcoal, coal and brick. - Combined Features 22 & 23 with Feature 25.

-Straum 10 is subsoil - Yeah.

Test Unit 4 Balk N7985/ E8012.5

- Created a balk between test unit 3 and 4 so that we can examine the wooden features more carefully.
- Balk is on the north side of test unit 4 and is one foot wide.
- The balk will make the test unit 5'x2.5'.
- Stratum 1 - door run-off - layered topsoil and dirt floor in horizontal layering.
- Stratum 3 - more run-off.
- Stratum 2/ Feature 26 start at the same place.
- Stratum 5 - yellowish soil, Feature 26 has different soil in it.
- Feature 26 - wooden feature - circular pattern.
- Feature 26 - is looking more and more like a small barrel.
- But why is it in front of the door and buried on purpose?
- Nail came out of the very top of Feature 26 then stopped.
- Stratum 5 is directly under Stratum 5 and Stratum 5 is very small.
- Stratum 6 is directly under Stratum 6 and found some nails.
- Stratum 10 is directly under Stratum 6.
- Stratum 6 is all of the balk and found a brick batt under Feature 26 and under the brick batt was a prehistoric spear point.
- Stratum 8 is a clay deposit on the west wall under the door (whole unit).
- May have used the brick batt to level off the bucket.
- Shell is in Stratum 7 and is named Feature 27 (Now combined with Feature 3).
- Stratum 8 - hard layer of clay.
- Stratum 9 is a sandy layer along edge of building.

Test Unit 5 N7970/ E8029

- Test Unit 5 is 15' south of test unit 2 and is the first unit is a series of four that will be a trench of units.
- After removing the sod it became apparent that the test unit has 3 layers right at the surface.
- Stratum 2 is the darkest running in a direct line of the run-off water trench and meets with the trench in test unit 1 and 2.
- Stratum 3 is darker than stratum 1.
- Stratum 3 has closed out revealing a new layer of mottled soil.
- This new layer does not match the layer beneath stratum 1.

- stratum 2 and Stratum 3 change into one soil and are combined into startum 5.
- Stratum 4 (what used to be Stratum 1) came down on different soil.
- Under Stratum 4 was the same soil as Statum 5.
- Now whole unit is Startum 5.
- Stratum 5 has a color tone change from east to west - blends together at the trench intersection - still think it is the same layer, buy water may have caused the gradual color shift.
- Out of the mottled Stratum 5 came a white clay pipe bowl fragment.
- Stratum 5 runs deep with low artifacts - 2 gravel sand deposits in north wall, but no really into floor unit - looks like we hit the edge of whatever it was or is.
- Jim Harmon seems to think that we have several alluvial deposits on top of one another that are sterile and the artifacts found in the layer are put there by root action.
- Jim suggested cutting the unit in half and taking it down another level.
- After coring there is a layer under it and these layers could go down forever.
- Stratum 6 - runs across unit.
- Cored in Stratum 6 and may have seen a buried plowzone under Stratum 6.
- Now since there is a possibility of plowzone we are taking out the rest of test unit 5.
- In Stratum 6 brick is coming up.
- Decided to abandon because the plowzone was another level of sterile soil.
- Artifacts found were most likely washed down or root -pushed.
- Very deep layers of sterile subsoil.

Test Unit 6 N7970/E8024

- Under the sod layer is Stratum 3 and it is mottled - looks basically the same as Stratum 3 in test unit 5.
- Cored down in unit and Stratum 4 covers the whole unit and under Stratum 4 looks like a darker, possible plowzone or undisturbed layer about 6-8 tenths down.
- Bisected test unit 6 in half and digging til we hit Stratum 6.
- After digging half down through Stratum 6 and not having any high number of artifacts, decided to do an STP (shovel test pit) in the bottom of the unit)Right in the middle of the half that was dug down).
- STP has Stratum 7 that is a bright orange solid sterile clay.

Test Unit 7 N7970/ E8019

- Not dug because of huge walnut tree in the center of the unit and the roots totally disturbed the unit.

Test Unit 8 N7970/ E8014

- Removed sod stratum and found large piece of stoneware crock.
- On Stratum 1 in the top of stratum is shell on the west half of the unit.
- After removing more stratum 1, there is a shell feature - Feature 14 - north part of the unit.
- Feature 14 looks more like a midden trash pit rather than shell run-off from the drainage system.
- The midden is going into Stratum 2 (the mottled stratum same as test units 5 and 6).
- Feature 14 - not a trash pit, but rather a trash scatter or run-off from a different pit or random scatter. - found a spoon out of feature than is worn on the left side, possibly indicating use by a right handed person, and possibly for scooping oysters.
- Came onto Stratum 3 and shoveled out.
- Stratum 4 - is a light tan clay - not that different from test units 5 and 6.
- Has a gravel lense in stratum 3.
- Bisecting unit in west half.

- Stratum 5 - dark brown soil with shell under clay gravel stratum.
- Feature 18 disappeared and was not a builder's trench, but rather a rain trench - Ended on Stratum 6.
- Stratum 5 is coming up with high artifacts - pipe stems, brick, glass, nails, and ceramics.
- Stratum 5 appears to be a buried A-horizon or a one-episode wash. I think it is too dark to be a buried plowzone and there is no rust feathering.
- STP in bottom of Stratum 6 (mottled) and goes down into the sterile orange stratum.